

Great Start Strategic Action and Planning Project: Major Products and Timeline

PURPOSE: By June 2005, Michigan will have a blueprint for a comprehensive early childhood system for young children from birth to age five and their families. Critical components of the early childhood system are: a medical home for each child; early childhood mental health; early care and education; parent education; family support.

Core Questions	Major Products	Time Frames
1. What should the future for Michigan's families with young children, from birth to age five, look like?	Vision*	October 2003
2. What should the purpose of an early childhood system be? a. What families with children from birth to age five should participate? b. Who are the essential system partners?	Purpose (Mission)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt definition of "ready" • Definition of the early childhood system • Children and families to be supported and served by the system • Essential system partners 	January 2004
3. What should the outcomes and Indicators of success be for a comprehensive early childhood system?	Outcomes and Indicators*	June 2004
4. What state and local structure is needed to support the early childhood system?	Early Childhood System Structure* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of structure (state and local) • Analysis of current reality • Identification of gaps • Evidence-based programs, supports, services • Standards and quality • Mechanism for collaborative policymaking across agencies • Mechanism to support effective communication between all partners • Financing • Personnel development • Marketing to promote public investment in early childhood 	March 2005 September 2004 December 2004 December 2004 December 2004 March 2005 March 2005 March 2005 March 2005 March 2005 March 2005
5. What refinements are needed in the integration of the vision, mission, outcomes/indicators, and system structure?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blueprint – Strategic Plan 	June 2005

* Proposed methods for major product development include community conversations, work groups, and state-level learning and planning sessions for stakeholders.